

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN HELSINKI

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

SECSTATE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 8081

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR VOLPE FROM SONNENFELDT

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG, IT

SUBJECT: RUMOR'S COMPLAINT ABOUT FOUR POWER LUNCHEON

REF: SECTO 8067 NOTAL

1. DURING JULY 31 MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY RUMOR CALLED ATTENTION TO FOUR POWER LUNCHEON SET FOR THAT DAY, AND SAID ITALIANS WERE DISTURBED BY REPORTS THAT ECONOMIC MATTERS WOULD BE DISCUSSED. HE SAID REPORT OF ITALY'S EXCLUSION FROM SUCH DISCUSSION ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS COULD HELP ITALIAN COMMUNISTS. THIS WAS IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF PRESENT PROBLEM OF KEEPING COMMUNISTS OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT MAJORITY.

2. THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT MEETING OF FOUR WESTERN POWERS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BERLIN WAS CONSIDERED SYMBOLICALLY IMPORTANT DURING CSCE TO UNDERLINE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN BERLIN. THE SECRETARY CALLED ATTENTION TO HIS JULY 30 PRESS CONFERENCE WHERE HE MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT FOUR POWER MEETING WAS NOT AN ECONOMIC SUMMIT (SEE REFTEL). HE RECALLED THAT US HAS TAKEN POSITION ALL ALONG THAT WE WOULD WELCOME ITALIAN PARTICIPA-
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TION IN MEETINGS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS AND EXPLAINED THAT IN

VIEW OF BREVITY OF FOUR POWER LUNCHEON IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WOULD RECEIVE MUCH ATTENTION. IN RESPONSE
TO RUMOR'S REQUEST THE SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD CLARIFY
PUBLICLY THAT PRINCIPAL REASON FOR FOUR POWERS LUNCH WAS
BERLIN.
KISSINGER

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